

**CITY OF ROCHESTER
COMMITTEE ON URBAN DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT
2122 CAMPUS DR SE
ROCHESTER, MN 55904**

The Committee on Urban Design and Environment (CUDE) met at 11:30AM on Thursday, October 16, 2008 in Room 320 City Hall, Rochester, MN.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Judisch – Chair, Dick Abraham, Mark Engel, Sandi Goslee, Mark Jasmin, John Klopp, Lindsey Meek, Roger Nelson, Dave Petersen, Terry Spaeth, Pauline Walle, Jean Weathers-Lowin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gail Eadie, Marcia Marcoux, Kathryn Moe, Zach Thaler

OTHERS PRESENT: John Harford, Nora Dooley, Stephan Lewis, Andy Masterpole

The meeting began at 11:35.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Mr. Engel made a motion to approve the September minutes; Mr. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Boulevard Tree Ordinance

Mr. Harford gave a quick review of work to date and described a meeting he had with members of the Rochester Area Builders regarding this issue. He stated that the RAB is not supportive of the proposed ordinance but did offer assessment as an alternative means of setting up boulevard plantings. Mr. Harford stated that Staff feels that fee collection at the time of the permit would work best; there are concerns with putting a front-end cost on development if this is done at the plat stage.

RAB also asked if landowners could receive breaks on stormwater fees if they plant a sufficiently dense boulevard; Mr. Harford stated that this is a legitimate question. Mr. Jasmin and Mr. Petersen commented that some creative and more environmentally sound plantings could be achieved if planned at the plat stage.

Mr. Judisch commented that some provision needs to be made to allow homeowners to plant their trees if they desire as it may give them more of a sense of ownership in the tree. Mr. Masterpole and Mr. Klopp stated that a 35' spacing of trees is warranted, not 50'.

Mr. Spaeth will draft a letter of support and send it out for wordsmithing. CUDE will vote on sending the letter at the November meeting.

Other

Ms. Goslee reminded the group to attend the Think Green Fair on October 18th.

Mr. Jasmin stated that the County Board would be discussing plans for Graham Park at their October 28th meeting.

Mr. Petersen stated that some "Exit Only" signs should be installed in the northbound TH 52 lanes at TH 14 and Elton Hills Drive.

Adjourn – 1:10 PM

Next meeting will be November 20th, 11:30AM.